

1 **Amendments to the Claims:**

2 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

3
4 **Listing of Claims:**

5 1. (Currently amended) A method of attachment of a coaxial cable to a coaxial
6 connector, the coaxial cable having an outer diameter, the coaxial cable including an inner
7 conductor surrounded by an outer conductor and separated therefrom by a dielectric, the inner
8 conductor including an outer surface, the coaxial connector including an inner terminal for
9 receiving an end portion of the inner conductor of the coaxial cable and including an outer
10 terminal for engaging the outer conductor, the method comprising the steps of:

11 a) inserting an end portion of said cable through a back nut of said connector, ~~said~~
12 ~~cable having an outer conductor;~~

13 b) flaring an end portion of said outer conductor to form a flared portion of the
14 outer conductor, the length of said flared portion being smaller than the outer diameter of said
15 coaxial cable, said cable having been inserted through said back nut;

16 c) removing dielectric from the end portion of the inner conductor of the coaxial
17 cable to expose the outer surface of an end portion of the inner conductor, and to allow the
18 exposed outer surface of the end portion of the inner conductor to engage the inner terminal of
19 the coaxial connector;

20 d) engaging the exposed outer surface of the end portion of the inner conductor
21 with the inner terminal of the coaxial connector, and attaching ~~said cable and~~ said back nut to
22 ~~inner and the~~ outer terminals terminal of said connector, said cable having been inserted
23 through said back nut; and

24 [d)] e) securing said flared end portion of said outer conductor between abutting
25 faces of said outer terminal and said back nut, said step of securing comprising axially
26 displacing said back nut towards said outer terminal.

1 2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of cleaning said end
2 portion of said outer conductor.

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4 3. (original) The method of Claim 1, said cable having an insulating jacket, further
5 comprising the step of removing a portion of said insulating jacket from said end portion of said
6 cable.

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8 4. Canceled.

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10 5. Canceled.

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12 6. (Previously amended) The method of Claim 1, said step of flaring further comprising
13 shaping said end portion of said outer conductor to correspond with said abutting faces of either
14 said outer terminal or said back nut, or a combination thereof.

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16 7. (Currently amended) A coaxial connector for attachment to a coaxial cable, the
17 coaxial cable including an outer conductor, the outer conductor of the coaxial cable having a
18 predetermined outer diameter, and the outer conductor of the coaxial cable having an inner
19 surface and an opposing outer surface, the coaxial connector comprising:

20 an outer terminal having front and back opposing ends, the back end of said outer
21 terminal including a first angled contact face integral with said outer terminal; and

22 a back nut releasably attachable to the back end of said outer terminal and extending
23 around the back end of said outer terminal, and axially displaceable with respect to said outer
24 terminal, the back nut including a second angled contact face integral with said back nut, the
25 back nut including an internal bore extending therethrough for allowing passage of the coaxial
26 cable therethrough, at least a portion of the internal bore having a predetermined internal
27 diameter commensurate with the predetermined outer diameter of the outer conductor of the
28 coaxial cable,

1 wherein said first angled contact face and said second angled contact face form a
2 clamping site therebetween, said clamping site being tightened as said back nut is axially
3 displaced with respect to said outer terminal, wherein said first angled contact face has a length
4 that is shorter than said predetermined internal diameter, and wherein said second angled
5 contact face has a length that is shorter than said predetermined internal diameter, said first
6 angled contact face directly engaging the inner surface of the outer conductor of the coaxial
7 cable, and second angled contact face directly engaging the outer surface of the outer conductor
8 of the coaxial cable.

9
10 8. Canceled.

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12 9. (Currently amended) The connector of Claim [8] 7 wherein a mechanical connection
13 between said cable and said connector is established via said clamping site.

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15 10. (Currently amended) The connector of Claim [8] 7, wherein the outer conductor of
16 said cable is either corrugated or smooth.

17
18 11. (Currently amended) A coaxial connector for attachment to a coaxial cable, the
19 coaxial cable including an outer conductor, the outer conductor of the coaxial cable having a
20 predetermined outer diameter and the outer conductor of the coaxial cable having an inner
21 surface and an opposing outer surface, the coaxial connector comprising:

22 an outer terminal having front and back opposing ends, the back end of said outer
23 terminal including a first angled contact face integral with said outer terminal;

24 a back nut releasably attachable to the back end of said outer terminal and extending
25 around the back end of said outer terminal, and axially displaceable with respect to said outer
26 terminal, the back nut including a second angled contact face integral with said back nut, the
27 back nut including an internal bore extending therethrough for allowing passage of the coaxial
28 cable therethrough, at least a portion of the internal bore having a predetermined internal

1 diameter commensurate with the predetermined outer diameter of the outer conductor of the
2 coaxial cable; and

3 said first and second angled contact faces forming an angled gap therebetween for
4 clamping a portion of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable therebetween, wherein said gap
5 decreases as said back nut is axially displaced towards said outer terminal, and increases as said
6 back nut is axially displaced away from said outer terminal, and wherein said first angled
7 contact face has a length that is shorter than said predetermined internal diameter, and wherein
8 said second angled contact face has a length that is shorter than said predetermined internal
9 diameter, said first angled contact face directly engaging the inner surface of the outer
10 conductor of the coaxial cable, and second angled contact face directly engaging the outer
11 surface of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable.

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13 12. (Previously presented) A method of attaching a coaxial connector to an end of a
14 coaxial cable, the coaxial connector including a removable back nut, a center conductor and an
15 outer body, the outer body comprising an integral clamping surface, the coaxial cable including
16 an inner conductor, a dielectric surrounding the inner conductor, an outer conductor
17 surrounding the dielectric, and a jacket surrounding the outer conductor, the jacket having an
18 outer diameter, the outer conductor having opposing inner and outer surfaces, said method
19 comprising the steps of:

- 20 a. preparing the end of the coaxial cable by:
- 21 i. removing a portion of the dielectric, outer conductor, and jacket from the inner
22 conductor to expose a portion of the inner conductor extending beyond the end
23 of the outer conductor;
- 24 ii. removing a portion of the jacket from the outer conductor to expose a portion of
25 the outer surface of the outer conductor; and
- 26 iii. removing a portion of the dielectric from within the end of the outer
27 conductor to expose a portion of the inner surface of the outer conductor;
- 28

- 1 b. inserting the prepared end portion of the coaxial cable through a back nut of the coaxial
2 connector;
- 3 c. flaring an end portion of said outer conductor to provide a flared portion having a
4 length smaller than the outer diameter of the jacket;
- 5 d. engaging the exposed inner conductor of the coaxial cable with the center conductor of
6 the coaxial connector;
- 7 e. placing the clamping surface of the outer body in close proximity to the flared portion
8 of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable; and
- 9 f. securing the back nut of the coaxial connector to the outer body of the coaxial
10 connector to clamp the flared portion of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable between the
11 clamping surface and the back nut of the coaxial connector.

12

13 13. (Previously presented) The method recited by claim 12 wherein said step of
14 securing the back nut to the outer body includes the step of axially displacing the back nut, and
15 the flared portion of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable, toward said outer body.

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17 14. (Previously presented) The method recited by claim 12 wherein:

- 18 a. the back nut includes a threaded surface;
- 19 b. the outer body includes a threaded surface adapted to mate with the threaded
20 surface of the back nut: and
- 21 c. the step of securing the back nut to the outer body includes the step of engaging the
22 threaded surface of the back nut with the threaded surface of the outer body and rotating the
23 back nut relative to the outer body to tighten the back nut onto the outer body.

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25 15. (Previously presented) The method recited by claim 12 wherein the back nut
26 comprises an integral second clamping surface, and wherein said step of securing the back nut
27 of the coaxial connector to the outer body of the coaxial connector clamps the flared portion of
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1 the outer conductor of the coaxial cable between the clamping surface of the outer body and
2 the second clamping surface of the back nut...

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4 16. (New) The coaxial connector recited by claim 7 wherein the coaxial cable
5 includes an inner conductor having an outer surface, and wherein the coaxial connector
6 includes an inner terminal adapted to engage the outer surface of the inner conductor of the
7 coaxial cable.

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9 17. (New) The coaxial connector recited by claim 11 wherein the coaxial cable
10 includes an inner conductor having an outer surface, and wherein the coaxial connector
11 includes an inner terminal adapted to engage the outer surface of the inner conductor of the
12 coaxial cable.

13
14 18. (New) A method of attachment of a coaxial cable to a coaxial connector, the
15 coaxial cable including an outer conductor generally having a predetermined outer diameter,
16 the coaxial connector including an outer terminal for engaging the outer conductor of the
17 coaxial cable, and the coaxial connector including a back nut with a central passage therein,
18 the method comprising the steps of:

19 a) inserting an end portion of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable through the
20 central passage of the back nut of said connector, the central passage of the back nut having an
21 internal diameter commensurate with the predetermined outer diameter of the outer conductor
22 of the coaxial cable;

23 b) following step a), physically deforming the end portion of the outer conductor to
24 form an enlarged-diameter flared portion of the outer conductor, the flared portion of the outer
25 conductor having a diameter exceeding the predetermined outer diameter of the outer
26 conductor for preventing the back nut from passing over the flared portion of the outer
27 conductor, the length of the flared portion being smaller than the predetermined outer diameter
28 of the outer conductor of the coaxial cable;

1 c) following step b), engaging the back nut with the outer terminal of the coaxial
2 connector; and

3 d) securing the flared end portion of the outer conductor between abutting faces of the
4 outer terminal and the back nut by axially displacing the back nut towards the outer terminal.
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